



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glacier National Park
International Peace Park
Biosphere Reserve
World Heritage Site

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Glacier National Park News Release

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Highline Trail, Grinnell Glacier Overlook Trail and Swiftcurrent Pass Trail to Re-Open

Granite Park Chalet to Welcome Overnight Guests Soon

WEST GLACIER, MONT.- The popular Highline Trail from Logan Pass to Granite Park Chalet will open to the public tomorrow (Friday, August 8), Glacier National Park Superintendent Mick Holm announced.

“Park staff and Granite Park Chalet employees will be on the trail today to prepare it for the public,” Holm said. “Tomorrow, the Highline Trail, Grinnell Glacier Overlook Trail and the Swiftcurrent Pass Trail will open to the public.”

Sperry Chalet is open. Granite Park Chalet will be open for overnight guests as soon as the area below to the Loop is mopped up by firefighters. That may take a day or two. Once the Chalet opens, the trail to the Swiftcurrent Lookout will open. The Loop Trail from the Chalet down to the Loop remains closed because of hazards from the Trapper Creek fire.

The entire 50 mile length of the Going-to-the-Sun Road continues to be open between 10 am and 6 pm daily. At other times, visitors can drive from the west entrance of the park up to Avalanche Campground and between St. Mary and Logan Pass. (Avalanche to Logan Pass is open only for day use, 10 am-6 pm)

Because of potential hazards and congestion, vehicles are not allowed to stop on a seven (7) mile stretch of the Sun Road (3.5 miles on either side of the Loop). Road signs designate the “No Stopping” section. Visitors are welcome to stop at the various pullouts along the Sun Road above and below the “No Stopping” section for excellent views of the valley and the Trapper Creek fire. For safety reasons, bicycles are currently not allowed between Avalanche and Logan Pass.

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Because of the limited hours for the upper section of the Sun Road, Glacier Park, Incorporated is revising its hiker shuttle schedule. The temporary schedule changes are posted at the shuttle stops.

Jammer Joe's, the popular Lake McDonald eatery, will re-open with limited hours beginning Saturday, August 9th. Hours of operation will be 11am until 4pm through September 2nd, the end of its season. Because of the limited hours at Jammer Joe's, the dining room at Lake McDonald Lodge will offer a broader menu for breakfast including a full buffet as well as ala carte menus. The lounge bar will also offer food during the evening.

Some areas of Glacier National Park are currently closed due to proximity of wildfires burning within the park. The status of area closures are subject to change. Some roads, campgrounds, trails and off-trail areas are closed in the vicinity of the Trapper Creek and Wedge Canyon fires, approximately 75 percent of the park is open. Only 16 of Glacier's 65 backcountry campgrounds are closed because of the fires and hikers have access to 605 of the park's 735 miles of trails.

Trail status and an area closure map are available at

<http://www.nps.gov/glac/activities/trails.htm>. Heavens Peak is currently closed to climbers because of the proximity of the Trapper Creek fire.

The south, east and northeast portions of Glacier National Park continue to welcome visitors. Belly River, Goat Haunt, Many Glacier Valley, St. Mary, Rising Sun, Two Medicine, East Glacier and Cut Bank offer hiking, camping and other activities.

Four major wildfires continue to burn in Glacier National Park. The Robert fire is located north and west of the West Glacier/Apgar area. The Trapper Creek fire is in the north central portion of the park, primarily northwest of the Loop. The Wedge Canyon fire is in the remote northwest corner of the park, next to the Flathead National Forest. The Wolf Gun fire is on the south side of Logging Lake. Because of the dry conditions, no open flames are allowed in Glacier National Park. Smoking is only allowed inside vehicles and buildings where permitted.

Smoke conditions change depending on local weather conditions. Visibility in the park can be checked by viewing Glacier's web cams at **www.nps.gov/glac/whatsnew.htm**. Updates on air quality are available at www.flatheadhealth.org/commonhealth/firealerts.htm. Current information on the fires is available at the Interagency Joint Information Center at (406)755-3910. It is also available at **www.fs.fed.us/r5/fire/ciimt5/ac/**

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